

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A printing apparatus has an image forming portion for forming an image on an intermediate transfer sheet for temporarily retaining the image and a transfer portion for
5 transferring the image formed on the intermediate transfer medium to a card. An over-coating device is provided for covering a surface of the card with the image with a coating film. The image forming portion is also capable of printing an image directly on a card. A platen roller supports the card or
10 the intermediate transfer medium. The apparatus can switch between the direct transfer method and the indirect transfer method, thereby reducing a size and a cost of the printing apparatus.